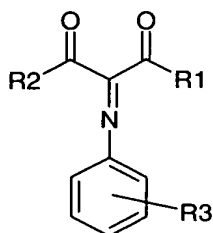


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A coating composition for making a protein microarray, the composition comprising a gelling agent or a precursor to a gelling agent and microspheres; the
5 microspheres containing a dye represented by Formula (I):



(I)

wherein: R1 and R2 independently represent substituted or unsubstituted
10 alkyl, aryl, carbocyclic ring, heterocyclic ring, or amino; and R3 represents H, alkylamino, dialkylamino, hydroxy, or alkoxy.